

Message Text

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DEPARTMENT REQUESTED PASS FOLLOWING NEWS RELEASE FROM R.E.
HARRINGTON TO DR. WILLIAM BROWN, DAVID STROTHER AND D.
OYSTER OF EPA:

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: STATIONARY SOURCE
AIR POLLUTION REDUCTION

QUOTE: 1. ON NOVEMBER 21 A U.S. DELEGATION OF GOVERNMENT
AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES HEADED BY R.E. HARRINGTON OF THE
US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) SIGNED PROTOCOLS WITH
THEIR SOVIET COUNTERPARTS THAT WILL ESTABLISH AND EXTEND
PROGRAMS OF JOINT RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE IN THE
AREA OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROL. THESE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS
WILL BE IMPLEMENTED UNDER THE US-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION
IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF MAY 1972. MR.
RUSSELL TRAIN, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY, IS U.S. CHAIRMAN OF THE US SIDE OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE
FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION.

2. TWO PROTOCOLS WERE SIGNED NOVEMBER 21. ONE WAS IN THE
AREA OF TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CONTROL OF SULFUR
OXIDE AIR POLLUTANTS. MR. MIKE MAXWELL OF THE
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EPA SIGNED FOR THE US SIDE. THE PROGRAM INCLUDES COOPERATION

ON THE DESIGN OF TWO FULL SCALE 100 MEGAWATT SCRUBBER FACILITIES TO BE CONSTRUCTED AND PAID FOR BY THE SOVIET UNION. ONE SYSTEM WILL DEMONSTRATE A MAGNESIUM PROCESS SIMILAR TO THE SYSTEMS NOW BEING OPERATED IN THE UNITED STATES. A SECOND PROCESS WILL BE DEMONSTRATED WHICH USES AMMONIA AS THE ACTIVE AGENT FOR SO₂ REMOVAL. THIS PROCESS IS UNDER DEVELOPMENT BOTH IN THE US AND USSR, BUT HAS NOT YET BEEN OPERATED ON A FULL SCALE PLANT.

3. A SECOND PROTOCOL WAS SIGNED BY N. PLAKS ALSO OF EPA THAT WILL OPEN NEGOTIATIONS FOR US EXPERTS TO EVALUATE A SOVIET-DEVELOPED DRY COKE QUENCHING PROCESS. COKING HAS LONG BEEN A MAJOR AIR POLLUTION PROBLEM. THE SOVIET PROCESS PERMITS A HIGHER YIELD OF COKE WITHOUT THE AIR POLLUTION COMMON TO PROCESSES CURRENTLY USED IN THE US. A FAVORABLE EVALUATION BY US EXPERTS COULD LEAD TO ACQUISITION OF THE PROCESS FOR USE BY US INDUSTRY.

4. BOTH PROGRAMS PROVIDE FOR EXTENSIVE INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SEVERAL JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS THAT COULD SIGNIFICANTLY BENEFIT AND REDUCE THE COST OF DEVELOPMENT AIR POLLUTION CONTROL TECHNOLOGIES IN BOTH COUNTRIES.
END QUOTE.

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